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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 23, 1986

Executive Registry

86-4245×/1

ER 86-4245X (Att.)

The Honorable William J. Casey Director Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Bill:

Anent your good letter of September 19, you have satisfied me completely. You responded forthrightly and without equivocation -which is a lot more than can be said for a lot of folks in this town.

Many thanks. I think you'll be satisfied with the way things proceed hence.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

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JESSE HELMS:pd

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ER86-4245X

19 September 1986

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The Honorable Jesse Helms United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Jesse:

I have your letter of 15 September 1986 in which you questioned whether the Agency engaged in illegal or improper surveillance of you during your trip to Chile last July and subsequently leaked information derived from that surveillance to the press. In a previous letter, you asked the Attorney General to investigate this matter.

Since you have raised a number of very serious issues, let me first set the record straight on a few key points. First, CIA did not in any way, shape or form conduct surveillance against you or any member of your delegation during your trip. Second, no one in this Agency leaked any information of any kind to the press about your trip. Third, CIA has undertaken no investigation, nor has it asked any other part of the Government to undertake any investigation, concerning you or any member of your staff in connection with this entire matter.

Jesse, I think that my deep and increasing concern about leaks of intelligence information is well documented. Nevertheless, it must be remembered that CIA does not have the authority to investigate unauthorized disclosures except insofar as determining whether or not an Agency employee may be involved. As I have indicated, we have absolutely no indication that this is the case with respect to the leaks you have cited in your correspondence. Of course, we will fully cooperate with any investigation undertaken by the FBI or other appropriate investigative body into any unauthorized disclosure of intelligence information.

I hope that this serves to allay your concerns on this matter.

Sincerely,

William J. Casey

Director of Central Intelligence

cc: Attorney General

The Honorable Dave Durenberger

5-111-12

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